Mizoram : Aizawl, Tamdil Lake, Champhai, Dama Sanctuary.

Meghalaya : Shillong, Barapani, Umiam Lake, Cathedral of Mary Help of Christians (Religious).

Nagaland : Kohima, War Cemetery, Dimapur, Catholic Cathedral at Aradura hills (religious), Famim Sanctuary.

Tripura : Rock Cuts at Unakoti and Pilak, Mata Tripureshwari Temple at Udaipur (Religious), fourteen Goddess Temple (Religious).

Sikkim : Gangtok, Rumtek Monastery (Religious), Khecheopari Lake.

(b) and (c) During the current year the following circuit has been identified for development and the detailed project report is under preparation.

Shillong-Guwahati-Kaziranga-Tezpur-Bhalakpung-Tawang-Majuli-Sibsagar-Kohima.

Besides, as per the Plan schemes, it is planned to develop a major destination in each State. Financial assistance is also provided to the States for fairs and festivals related to tourism.

During the current year a provision of Rs. 22.5 crores has been made for North Eastern region including Sikkim for tourism development.

Bharat Darshan Park in Bangalore

1487. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Council of Science Museums has signed any Memorandum of Understanding with the Karnataka Government for setting up a Bharat Darshan Park in Bangalore;

(b) if not, whether Government are aware that a decision was taken earlier to set up a Bharat Darshan Park in Bangalore as part of the Golden Jubilee Celebration of Indian Republic;

(c) whether the Karnataka Government has earmarked land for this purpose; and

(d) by when Government will sign MoU with the Karnataka Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Earlier a proposal for setting up a Bharat Darshan Park in Bangalore was under process. However, on account of high cost and long gestation, it was decided not to go ahead in the project.

(c) In view of the decision taken, land in Bangalore was not required.

(d) Does not arise.

Facelift of national monuments in Tamil Nadu

1488. PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item which appeared in The Indian Express dated the 12th October, 2002 captioned ASI wakes up-Delhi monuments are getting a facelift;

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto;

(c) whether Government have already considered giving a facelift to other national monuments in different parts of the country in general and Tamil Nadu in particular to promote tourism; and

(d) if so, the details of such blueprint?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. However in its quest for maintaining important historical monuments in the country, apart from the 3606 centrally protected monuments, the Archaeological Survey of India has recently notified the Red Fort, Salimgarh Fort and the city wall of Shahjahanabad in Delhi as protected monuments under the AM & ASR Act.

In addition to the maintenance of the 3606 centrally protected monuments, a list of important monuments, which have been identified for integrated development with a view to promoting culture & tourism, (including those in the state of Tamil Nadu) is at Statement enclosed.